



The Hon Chris Hartcher

Minister for Resources and Energy

Special Minister of State

Minister for the Central Coast

MEDIA RELEASE

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GREATER ACCESS TO CSG WELL INFORMATION

The NSW Government is continuing to improve public access to data on coal seam gas wells, with a mapping tool on the Government's one-stop-shop CSG website - www.csg.nsw.gov.au - providing a list of exploration, pilot and production wells.

Each icon displays specific information about the history of the well including the date it was drilled, its current status, whether hydraulic fracturing was used and whether it has been rehabilitated.

In July the Office of Coal Seam Gas wrote to gas companies asking them to release information regarded as confidential under Section 118 of the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*.

"Some of the wells date back to 1937 so it was important to crosscheck all records held by both the Department and industry so we could provide the public with an accurate picture of where the industry is currently at," Resources Minister, Chris Hartcher said.

"The result is a comprehensive listing of the wells drilled in NSW for the purposes of exploring for or extracting natural gas from coal seams."

Mr Hartcher said NSW has put in place a world-class regulatory system to manage growth of the industry and protect our land and water resources.

"We are confident that our policies provide the basis for sustainable development whilst protecting our valuable water resources and the environment. Successful coexistence can and does occur," Mr Hartcher said.

"The website also details the rights of farmers and landowners when approached by a CSG company. Many people aren't aware that a titleholder can't access a property unless a land access agreement has been agreed to and signed by both parties.

"We have heard community concerns about the need for greater information and factual content about the CSG industry and have acted. I encourage all interested parties to log onto the website, read the fact sheets, watch the video messages, join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter and explore the new content on the interactive map."

Coal Seam Gas – Informing the Community

www.csg.nsw.gov.au  www.twitter.com/nswre  www.facebook.com/nswre